

**Amendments to the Specification are as follows:**

Before the first sentence on page 1, please insert the following paragraph:

**RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application claims the benefit of priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-325082 filed on November 8, 2002, which is herein incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 as follows:

As shown in Fig. 1, the printer 1 in this embodiment mode has a connecting portion 2 such as a USB cable, etc., and is constructed such that an image processor 3, such as a digital camera, etc., is directly connected to the printer 1 through a cable so as to obtain plural image data recorded to a recording medium 3a such as a memory card, etc. mounted to the above-image processor 3. For example, as shown in Fig. 2, the plural image data are recorded to this recording medium 3a as an image file together with annexed information such as respective the making (photographing) dates, or dates the photographs were taken, the sizes or titles of the images, etc.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20 as follows:

Further, there is a case in which automatic printing information such as DPOF, etc., has having the printed image data selected by the user in advance on the image processor side is recorded to the above recording medium 3a.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 1 as follows:

An image data selecting section 6 is connected to the above CPU 4 through a bus 7, and the printed image data are definitely selected with certainty by [[this ]]the image data selecting section 6.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 4 as follows:

Namely, ~~[[this ]]~~the image data selecting section 6 retrieves whether ~~or not~~ the above-automatic printing information is recorded to the above-recording medium 3a ~~or not~~. When the automatic printing information is recorded to the recording medium 3a, the image data selected in this automatic printing information are ~~definitely selected~~ with certainty as the printed image data.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 10 as follows:

In contrast to this, when the above-automatic printing information is not recorded to the above-recording medium 3a, the above-image data selecting section 6 compares the making dates of the respective image data with reference to the annexed information of the image file, and selects the image data of a newest making date as the printed image data.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 16 as follows:

A driving section 8 of the printer 1 is connected to the ~~above~~ CPU 4 through a bus 7. ~~[[This ]]~~The CPU 4 outputs commands for printing the image data selected by the above-image data selecting section 6 to ~~[[this ]]~~the driving section 8.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 20 as follows:

A recording head (not shown) such as a thermal head, an ink jet head or a light emitting portion in the printer of an electro-photographic system, etc. is connected to the ~~above-driving~~ section 8. The selected image data are printed by operating ~~[[this ]]~~the recording head 9 by the ~~above-driving~~ section 8.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 25 as follows:

The printing method of the printer in the present ~~invention~~ embodiment that applies ~~applying the above-~~printer 1 thereto will next

be explained with reference to Fig. 3, focusing on image selection processing using the above image data selecting section.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 2 as follows:

In this embodiment mode, when the printing processing using the above-printer 1 is performed, the existence of a printing start is first judged-determined as shown in a step 1 (ST1). Thereafter, when the printing is started, it proceeds to a step 2 (ST2). In contrast to this, if no printing is started, the step 1 (ST1) is repeated.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 7 as follows:

In the step 2 (ST2), it is retrieved whether the automatic printing information such as DPOF, etc., is recorded to the above recording medium 3a. Subsequently, in a step 3 (ST3), the existence of the automatic printing information is judged-determined. If the automatic printing information is recorded, it proceeds to a step 4 (ST4). In contrast to this, if no automatic printing information is recorded, [[it]] the method proceeds to a step 5 (ST5).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 17 as follows:

In the step 5 (ST5), the image files are sorted in order of the making date-order. Thereafter, [[it]] the method proceeds to a step 6 (ST6). In this step 6 (ST6), only the image data of the image file of the newest making date among the sorted image files are printed.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 21 as follows:

Accordingly, in accordance with this embodiment mode, when the automatic printing information for automatically printing the image data selected in advance by the image data selecting section 6 of the printer 1 is recorded to the recording medium 3a, the printing according to this automatic printing information is executed. In contrast to this, when no automatic printing information is recorded, the newest image data can be printed by comparing the making dates of the respective image data.

Please combine and amend the two paragraphs beginning on page 7, line 7 and ending on page 7, line 13 as follows:

The present ~~invention-embodiment~~ is not limited to the above embodiment modes, but can be variously changed as necessary in accordance with necessity. For example, with respect to the image data printed when no automatic printing information is recorded to the recording medium 3a, two image data or more sequentially counted from the newest image data may also be ~~[[also ]]~~ printed as well as the newest image data.